

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the Summary (published as paragraph 6) as follows:

~~The present invention contemplates a ball valve arrangement in which a single piece packing may be installed onto a valve element within a temperature range so that the mechanical properties of the packing material are substantially unchanged. The present invention further contemplates methods of assembly. Still further the invention contemplates a valve element and packing wherein various dimensions are selected to improve the rated operating temperature range and cycle life of the valve such as by reducing the volume of packing material and providing a more uniform distribution of load on the packing after installation into the valve. Various aspects of the invention may optionally be used with a multi piece packing. Still further, the invention contemplates a ball and trunnion design that allows a ball valve element to axially float or shift when the valve element packing expands and contracts under temperature changes. Another aspect of the invention relates to the use of a live load applied to the valve element packing in combination with the axial float of the valve element. A ball valve includes a valve element and a single piece packing that seals the valve element within a valve cavity. The single piece packing may be installed on the valve element at room temperature or may be molded on the valve element. The valve element may include a flow control element that comprises a ball and upper and lower trunnions. The lower trunnion may extend past a lower end of the packing.~~